

THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS

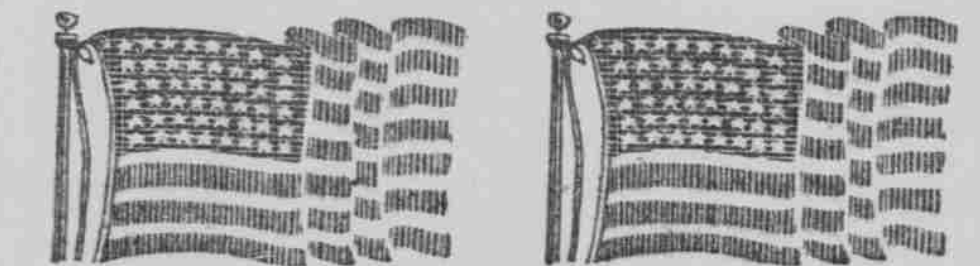
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WALL STREET AND THE PEOPLE OF GARY.

The Gary Post attacks Mr. Geist, one of the principal stockholders in utilities companies in Hammond, Whiting, East Chicago and other Indiana cities, referring to him in terms of a non-resident "robber."

But the Post overlooks, and as it is known, dares not attack the way in which the utilities company in Gary is conducted. This concern, the Gary Heat, Light and Water company, like everything else in Gary, is dominated by that giant octopus, the Steel Trust. Of the 12,500 shares of this subsidiary of the Steel Corporation, only six shares are said to be held by other persons, and they are by men termed as the dummy directors of the concern.

Naturally, the Post, which may not split unless the U. S. Steel Corporation or one of its subsidiaries permits it, has to take up cudgels for the Steel company's utility in Gary. Mr. Geist took some nice business away from the Gary concern recently. Naturally there is much irritation.

But a little more about these utilities. Do the people of Gary know that their Wall Street concern charges them \$75 a year for arc lights, whereas Mr. Geist's company gets but \$52.50 in Hammond? If Mr. Geist is a non-resident "robber," then in what degree of banditry would the Post class the real manipulators of the Gary Heat, Light and Water Trust? Now Mr. Geist's lighting plants are normal concerns, but the Gary concern buys its electric current from its sister subsidiary, the Gary steel plant. Does the Steel Trust sell its employees electricity at cost or a slight figure above cost? It does not. According to sworn testimony, the Steel Trust makes its current at a cost of three-tenths cents a kilowatt hour, and the lighting subsidiary buys its current for one cent to three cents per kilowatt hour (according to conditions), and then retails it to the steel-workers and the other people of Gary at nine cents per kilowatt hour, or thirty times the cost price to the parent concern! Whether this is in keeping with the Steel Trust's ideas of commercial morality and its conception of war profits is not known, but if electric service should be cheap any place in Indiana, it should be cheap at Gary instead of being one of the most expensive in the state. The electricity that the people of Gary use is a by-product from the Gary steel plant and is said to amount to little more than one-half per cent of all the current generated. But Wall Street's porcine interest in Gary is to goad on its satraps in Gary and Chicago to squeeze out all the dividends possible.

How the Gary Heat, Light and Water company manages to get its clutches into the city treasury is shown by the statement that the city has appropriated for the current year \$39,287.32 for lights and \$30,568.61 for water. This is a total of over \$70,000 that the tax-payers of Gary yield to this poverty-stricken utility besides all the ordinary charges for individual service and the placing of deposits by consumers ranging from \$5 to \$25 to "protect" the company for payment of bills incurred, a fund that is said to yield handsome rates of interest. Besides demonstrating its tight-fistedness in other ways, Wall Street has to have a guarantee of ten per cent from the city of Gary for extending water mains to certain portions of the city, and these were only placed after tolling steel-workers, no longer able to stand the brackish surface, and typhoid-breeding waters they and their wives and children had to use, pleaded in the name of common humanity to be allowed to buy pure water. This water comes from Lake Michigan and as far as the lake is concerned this is the only benefit the Garyites get out of it as the Steel Trust has usurped and set off the seven miles of water frontage in ruthless disregard of any rights or birthright the people of Gary may have.

When the Gary Heat, Light and Water company got its franchise from the old town board of Gary ten years ago (one of the three trustees being a steel official), there was no idea that Gary would grow into such a large place as soon, so high rates were fixed. Since then the history of the concern has been one of high prices, poor service and an attitude of official arrogance. A few years ago when the company declined to furnish water to one portion of the city, where the Steel Trust does not own real estate, for sale, and where it does not manifest the same degree of interest, voters voted overwhelmingly to establish a municipal waterworks. This brought the concern to terms for once. Even Superintendent Wirt of the Gary schools, unwilling to pay out the people's money for the prices demanded by the concern, has had private power plants installed in several of the Gary school-houses, and towns nearby Gary have taken the Geist service in preference to that of the Steel Trust because of better rates. What Gary people would save even on their sidewalk and street lights had they Mr. Geist's service would run into thousands of dollars annually.

One of the high finance spots in the history of this spawn of Wall Street dictation in Gary is when in 1913 it authorized a \$4,000,000 bond issue the day the Indiana Public Utilities Act became operative. This law was devised to restrict certain bond issues. Of this amount, \$1,250,000



AMONG our friends is one who says the patent medicine ad for taking her notion of heaven

IS a place where she could take a real deep breath when she is all dressed up

WITHOUT fear of busting something

PROBABLY feeling rather tired out by the heat it only adds to our weariness to read

THE advice of Reginald Double X Sweetface the handsome movie hero

WHO advises young men to enlist

SO the big slob can go on raking in the jits we suppose

WHEN you want a good line on a man

DON'T go and talk to him

JUST go and ask his wife what she thinks of men in general

RACE of pygmies living 2,000 feet high discovered in Guinea

THE higher the fewer!

ONE reason we opine why a toad always "sa such a sad look is that he

HAS no ears

AND no hair

PROBABLY Billy Mason's wife got so hard up

FOR something to brag about

THAT she had him get his picture on

IT'S a funny word

ONCE in a while you will see a woman in an evening

GOWN

THE rear of which is cut almost as low as the Hindenburg line

AND then the hawkeyed dame who sits all night in a rocking chair near the punch bowl will

INFORM you

THAT she is a woman who puts everything she has on her back

THE underwriters may as well set down Long-haired Vardaman and Gumshoe Bill Stone

AS total losses

PROBABLY after seeing how old Doc Michaelis is musing up things

BETH-HOLLWEG is rejoicing because he was ditched

SOME of the chaps at Washington might

SHOW their patriotism by

NOT making speeches

THE country's ears are cracked now listening to flannel mouths

ARE MARTIN is trying to solve the leading mystery

HOW a woman can sit on the

FRONT porch all morning

worth have been issued, a sum equal to the capital stock, and probably done to replace the original investment. Last year this hard-pressed utility company had a total income greater than its total capital stock, taking in \$1,507,712.99. This year is probably will do even better.

Painted as a public benefactor devised to "aid" steel-workers, the Gary Heat, Light and Water company has been one of the most potent coin separators in the Gary district. Only six shares of its 12,500 shares of stock are said to be held outside of the Steel Trust, and these six are declared to be in the possession of as many employees of the concern, two in Chicago and four in Indiana, the holders serving as officers and what is known as dummy directors of this out-of-town monopoly.

The history of this grasping offspring of Wall Street finance is long, pliggish and interesting, and the people of Gary ought to acquaint themselves with it and also find why Gary has to pay \$75 to Wall Street for electric lights when Mr. Geist makes a living by giving them to Hammond for \$52.50. The difference between Wall Street's rate of \$75 and the Geist rate of \$52.50 speaks volumes.

When the Post sticks its foot in its mouth next time it won't be over Mr. Geist.

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF STEEL PLANTS?

No less a person than Senator Francis G. Newlands, chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce, expresses in an interview given in the New York Times Magazine Section that unless certain big industries are able to acquire more patriotism and modify their conception of profit they face commandeering by the government. And it is not at all unlikely that they will revert back to private ownership.

Senator Newlands talks within the scope of bar-bred socialism or collectivism. He says that had the coal operators, who suggested \$3 as a fair price for their output, had made it \$2 to \$2.50, the march of the United States toward the goal of socialism would not have gone so far.

"Our war conditions," says Senator Newlands, "now require supreme collective effort, and that, carried out to the fullest extent, means socialism." He commends the lumber, copper and aluminum interests, but holds that the coal, iron and steel interests are not as patriotic as they should be. As for iron and steel interests, instead of being helpful to the government, they have indicated that they will even demand higher or double than pre-war rates. If so, the government will have to deal summarily with them, not only for its own interests, but for the benefit of the public.

In connection with Senator Newlands' statements comes announcement of the earnings of the United States Steel Corporation for the quarter just ended. They are in excess of \$144,000,000 as compared with over \$118,000,000 last quarter, a total of over \$277,000,000 for six months as compared with some \$280,000,000 earnings for all of last year, which were again greater than the year previous by over 300 per cent. Happily, a large war tax will bear on this year's earnings.

As the leading steel interest, so there must go to the directors of the steel corporation its share of whatever blame there is for the unreasonable rise in prices of iron and steel since the war began. Instead of being lowered when we entered the war in April, iron went up over 33 1/3 per cent and many steel products in proportion. It cannot be denied that these excessive profits of the steel trust and other concerns have a vital effect on the cost of living as they concern every man, woman and child in America, and the whole sinister system of war profits is reflected in helping to sometimes almost wipe out railroad profits, cruelly taxing our Allies and sorely imposing upon the farmers, auto-makers and all users of steel. The continuance of such tactics will only serve to breed socialism, which is far from what we want, but perhaps the government, either through Congress or the Federal Trade Commission, will soon find means of stopping this orgy of war profits with its frightful effects upon the American people.

WAIVING of exemptions now more important than waving of flags.

NOW if they had only held these peace conferences when the war began instead of waiting till its end things might have been different.

SEA serpent is not a myth, says the New York World. That's the trouble. In this modern age they even want to take away our myths from us.

"CHICAGOANS Should Have the Use of Their Lake Front."—Chicago American. They do have the use of fifteen of the twenty-six miles of the lake front. Wall Street forbids Garyites to have any use at all of their seven miles of lake front. Do you think Chicago would stand for Wall Street doing anything like this?

FIFTY-year-old Mishawaka windmill concern goes on the rocks. Simply couldn't compete with some of the windmills who preach patriotism with one hand and garner in war profits with the other.

Whiting And Its People

Buy a \$50.00 Liberty Bond. Bank of Whiting, open 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. 6-21

Mrs. P. Seifer of Laporte avenue, is entertaining her brother, Herman Bernstein of St. Louis, who will spend a couple of months here.

Mrs. Thomas McCormick of Ft. Richmond, Cal., has been visiting at the Elm home in Sheridan avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schaefer and daughter Virginia, of Mt. Washington, Va., are the guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schaefer of Sheridan avenue.

Miss Ocie B. McCool has gone to Missouri to spend a few weeks with her parents.

Mrs. Edward C. Schaefer of Balston Spa, N. Y., is here visiting her sons, Edward and Walter Schaefer of Atchison avenue.

Princess theatre tonight. Jesse L. Lasky presents the wonderful star, Vivian Martin, in "The Wax Model." A very strong play in five parts. Also a Burton Holmes Travelogue. Adm. 5 and 10c. Don't fail to see this. 8-3-1

Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Heyl and Mr. and Mrs. George K. Fanner of Cleveland, Ohio, were the guests of Mrs. Catherine Stewart and family of Sheridan avenue yesterday.

A. Conrad, the shoemaker, was arrested on Wednesday night on the charge of going to the left instead of the right side of the traffic guide at the Front street corner, with his cycle bicycle. He was released on bonds.

The Whiting city court, following the example of the local stores, is planning on holding no court in the evening if this can be satisfactorily arranged. The question as to whether cases will be tried at 9 a. m. or 1 p. m. is to be put to a vote of the policemen.

Mr. and Mrs. Gellius J. Bader and son Lawrence, and Jesse Gill will leave today for a trip to Colorado Springs and other western points.

Fred J. Smith of Oliver street, is entertaining his aunt.

Henry Graben of 415 Hohman street, Hammond, arrested on the charge of forgery on complaint of James Henderson, was fined \$50 and sentenced to six months at the state penal farm.

Mrs. William Urie of Michigan, who formerly resided in Whiting, was the guest of Mrs. George S. Hilliard of Oliver street.

Dr. G. H. Hoskins and family have returned from a month's auto tour through the east.

William, the son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Roe of Fischrupp avenue, is ill with scarlet fever.

Lawrence J. Hoffman, haberdasher and tailor from Hammond, has purchased the Best clothes shop, 119th street and Sheridan avenue, Whiting.

Mrs. W. R. Jenkins and daughter Alice, have returned from a visit with friends at Waukegan and Hanna, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. Kaine have purchased the Sellers home in Amy avenue.

John Mantz of Central avenue, has gone to Pensacola, Fla., where he will visit his brother, Alexander J. Mantz, a member of the coast artillery, who is stationed there.

CHICAGO AS A MUSIC CENTER

In the last six years Chicago has taken the leading place in the country as a musical center. Even New York and Boston have had to yield the palm to their "ro-yal" western rival.

When a musician establishes a reputation for superiority in Chicago it is certain that they will be welcomed anywhere.

Theodore Thomas twenty years ago had faith in Chicago's musical future when he established the now renowned "Thomas Orchestra." Campanelli had faith in Chicago music loving and appreciation when he established the grand opera in Chicago six years ago.

And the Chicago public have justified these men by supporting them. Today the finest singers, such as Galli-Curci, make their debut in Chicago.

If a person is contemplating the study of music the very finest schools in the country are found in Chicago. We would be sorry to see any of our young people look to the east for the finish of their education when right here, at their very doors is the very finest to be had. And in Chicago are the very finest musical entertainments. Whatever your liking, it could be found in the musical life of our big neighbor.

Remember the Adage

—“A stitch in time saves nine.” This proverb can easily be applied to glasses.

That's the reason we advise having the children's eyes examined now.

Glasses at the right time may strengthen the eyes to such an extent that they need not be worn in later years.

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What Did You Do Last Evening?

Did you enjoy yourself-sure you did.

And so did our sales people.

They told us today. Even if they had not said a word we could have told they like the new closing arrangement by the way they worked today.

You benefit by the 6 o'clock closing Mrs. Shopper; and you too, Mr. Man, for part work and part play makes everyone feel happier and more cheerful. You are served better, more quickly, whenever or wherever you shop.

Whiting Merchants' Association

By C. A. VOIGHT

PETEY DINK Maybe She Just Liked to Watch His Antics

